

Rideshare Review

A bimonthly publication from Capitol Rideshare

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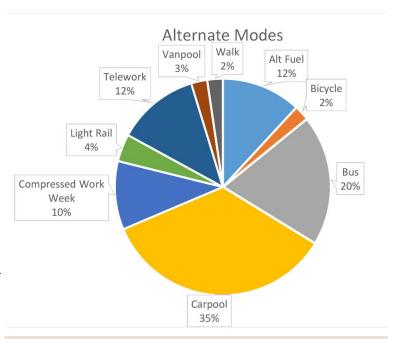
Annual Travel Reduction Survey results are in

State's overall Single Occupancy Vehicle rates rose slightly over 2017

Nearly 19,000 state employees (89%) working in Maricopa County completed the annual Travel Reduction Survey in March. Once the surveys are complete, Capitol Rideshare staff packages the anonymous data and sends it to Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) for analysis. The MCAQD sorts the data by site, then determines the single occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips and the single occupancy vehicle miles traveled (SOVMT) rates based on the information employees provided about their commutes. MCAQD then provides Capitol Rideshare with the analysis to determine whether the sites have met the goal of 60 percent SOV and SOVMT rates. The overall 2018 SOV rate for the state was 76.45 percent (up from 75.17 percent in 2017) and the state's overall 2018 SOVMT rate was 73.94 percent (up from 71.89 percent in 2017).

In 2018, two sites met the SOV 60 percent SOV rate goal: Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) and DES East University. It's important to note that a site may include multiple agencies at a single address. Capitol Rideshare has prepared individual agency report cards for agencies with 10 or more employ-

ees. Several agencies that are co-located at larger sites also have met the state's SOV and/or SOVMT goal. This includes: Arizona Finance Authority; Arizona State Retirement System; State Board for Charter Schools; Cosmetology Board, Criminal Justice Commission, Department of Education (Capitol Complex), Department of Homeland Security, Parks Board (Capitol



The chart above indicates the breakdown of alternate modes that employees reported using in the 2018 Travel Reduction Survey

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First HPA contest winners of 2018!

Watch for high pollution advisory (HPA) notifications, use an alternate mode and enter HPA contests!

Along with the triple-digit temperatures comes the inevitable rise of ozone pollution, which can trigger a variety of respiratory and other health problems (these are particularly acute in vulnerable populations). To combat these pollution problems, Capitol Rideshare staff works with state agency travel reduction coordinators to notify employees when the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) issues High Pollution Advisories (HPAs).

State employees are encouraged to take action and participate in our HPA contest. You can choose to carpool, telework, take transit, stay in for lunch, combine trips, avoid drive-thru options, and refuel after dark to make an impact. Choose one of these alternate modes, then visit <u>CapitolRideshare.az.gov</u>, log your participation and enter to win a prize and recognition here in the pages of the Rideshare Review. These are the April and May winners chosen at random; each winner received a \$10 Lyft credit:

- Kim Katchur, Department of Transportation
- Bernadette Cabrera, Department of Education
- Fawn Calvario, Department of Economic Security
- Walid Warde, Department of Transportation
- Fran Altmaier, Department of Health Services
- Tisha Smith, Department of Health Services
- Sharon Simpson, Attorney General's Office
- Marissa Cruz, Department of Agriculture

The ADEQ forecast team updates the Air Quality Index reports (with extended forecasts) daily; the reports are available at the ADEQ Air Quality forecast page.

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Complex), State Treasurer's Office, and Veterans Services (Century Plaza). Based upon the agencies' survey data, the agencies' employees are incorporating a variety of alternate modes (transit, carpool, telework, compressed work weeks, alternative fuel vehicles and biking/walking) that results in lower SOV and SOVMT rates.

Capitol Rideshare staff is currently working with the agency travel reduction coordinators to develop agency-specific plans to reduce the SOV rates at each agency, which will reduce the state's overall rates.

To see the results for your agency and location, visit the Capitol Rideshare website <u>survey results page</u>. Report cards indicate which modes were used most frequently; for agencies that have taken the survey for multiple years at the same location, historical data is provided.

2019 carpool parking permit renewal underway

Capitol Rideshare staff has been working with agency travel reduction coordinators to renew the Capitol Rideshare parking permits; FY 2018 permits will expire on June 30, 2018.

The travel reduction coordinators have reviewed the lists of permit holders for their agencies and indicated which employees are still carpooling. Capitol Rideshare sent the 2019 orange renewal stickers to each agency coordinator to distribute to their respective permit holders. If you have not received your renewal sticker, please contact your agency travel reduction coordinator or send an email to RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov.

Platinum Pass eases your commute—and may be a winning ticket!

Each month, three Platinum Pass users will be chosen at random to win a prize

Riding transit can save you time, money and reduce traffic-related stress. Valley Metro Local, Express, and RAPID buses and light rail can get you to work without the hassle of traffic, often quicker than driving alone. Now, using the Platinum Pass can increase your chances of winning a prize from Capitol Rideshare! To promote the state's subsidized Platinum Pass transit program, Capitol Rideshare will choose three riders at random each month to receive a prize. These are our most recent winners; each won a \$10 Lyft credit:

March winners: Mary Colla, Arizona Supreme Court; Christopher Hudgins, Department of Economic Security; and Carisa Marquez, Department of Revenue

April winners: Sara Twarek, Department of Health Services; Dora Halguin, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System; and Barbara Brown, Arizona Supreme Court.

Sign up today! The state offers a transit subsidy to employees who sign up for the Platinum Pass; there is no fee to apply for the pass. The current subsidy rate is 50 percent of the fare, up to half the cost of a monthly pass. Just print out the <u>application</u>, complete it and send it to your agency's human resources unit. Learn more about this program on <u>Capitol Rideshare's website</u>.

June Clean Air Challenge:

Use an alternate mode week of June 25-29, enter to win a prize!

Each summer, Capitol Rideshare challenges state employees to use an alternate mode one week in June and one week in July during the Clean Air Challenge campaign—then enter the <u>online contest</u> to win a prize! Acceptable alternate modes include:

- Carpool
- Transit (bus or light rail)
- Telework day/virtual office
- Alt Fuel Vehicle
- Biking/Walking

Deadline for entering the June Clean Air Challenge is July 6!

Rules: Employees must be a non-university State employee in Maricopa County and participate at least one day during the Challenge Week. Participation consists of trips to and from work ONLY. A complete entry must be submitted online by the deadline. No credit given for sick or vacation days. Compressed work week day OFF is eligible. Alternate fuel vehicles are eligible ONLY if they are utilizing alternate fuel. Certain restrictions apply.

Help fight transit fraud!

A reminder for employees who have a Platinum Pass: employees are responsible for all charges incurred on their Platinum Pass until they notify their human resources department, in writing, that the pass is lost or has been stolen.

The Platinum Pass may be used only by the employee to whom it was issued. If someone is caught using a pass without the consent of the issuer (the State of Arizona, in this case), the person can be charged with a class 6 felony.

Steps to prevent fraud:

- Keep your Platinum Pass secured.
- Check your paystub for charges even when you have not used your pass.
- NEVER loan your pass to anyone else.
- Report your pass missing immediately (in writing) by contacting your human resources liaison.
- Follow up with HR to ensure your missing pass has been canceled (Capitol Rideshare can check this as well).
- Contact Capitol Rideshare with any questions at RideshareHelp@azdoa.gov or 602.542.7433.

Coordinator's Corner

Survey results are posted; agency TRP plans are due June 12

The 2018 Travel Reduction Survey is complete and the Maricopa County Air Quality Department (MCAQD) analysts have completed their review of the data. For agencies with 10 or more employees, staff has generated reports cards that detail the reported participation in travel reduction programs and alternate mode use. The survey results (report cards) are posted online.

Each agency is required to have a travel reduction plan; Capitol Rideshare provides a template for the plan. All agency coordinators should have received an email from Capitol Rideshare regarding the individual agency travel reduction plan. If you have questions about preparing the plan, contact Capitol Rideshare staff at 602,542,7433.

Rebranding and publication redesign

Capitol Rideshare is currently working with a design firm to rebrand and redesign the state's travel reduction program and printed material. Much like the website, the new brochure will showcase all travel reduction options in a single place. The logo will be updated to reflect the broader service area as well. Staff expects to distribute new materials to coordinators in July.

New Employee Orientation

Capitol Rideshare staff is available to present an overview of the travel reduction program, answer questions and/or set up an information table at your agency's new employee orientation. Please contact us at Ridesharehelp@azdoa.gov to discuss this option for your agency.

Reminders

Still haven't joined Commuter Club? Sign up today for peace of mind and discounts!

If you take the bus, light rail, carpool, bike, or use another alternate transportation mode to get to work at least twice a week, you are eligible for FREE Commuter Club membership! Benefits include: **Emergency Ride Home** for unexpected emergencies; this service will return the employee to their car or their home at no cost to the employee (twice per fiscal year). Restrictions apply. **Discounts from Uber and Lyft:** Seasonal offers change throughout the year and are subject to expiration. To learn more about Commuter Club or to sign up, please visit us online at CapitolRideshare.az.gov.

Match list service for carpools and vanpools

Need to find someone to share the ride? Log on to SharetheRide.com and complete a match list. It takes just a few minutes and it is confidential. The tool will allow you to find others who are seeking commuters for a carpool or vanpool. Need help? Call us at 602.542.7433. Be sure to check out our online video about vanpool as a commuting option!

Electric vehicle resources

For state employees who have invested in electric (EV) or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEV), there are several options for charging these vehicles during the work day. ChargePoint has multiple charging stations at (or near) many state worksites, including properties in the Capitol Mall area. The ChargePoint website features an interactive map detailing where charging stations are located and the associated costs. Employees can enter their work address and find the closest charging station. Employees driving zero-emission vehicles at least three times a week are eligible for Capitol Rideshare parking permits and Commuter Club membership.

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